

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-13, and 15-30 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 13, and 15 have been amended, and claims 8 and 14 have been cancelled. Claims 20-30 have been newly added. The basis for the amended claims may be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims of the original application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner has objected to claims 5-8, 10-12, 14-16 and 19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has indicated that the claims would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner's determination in this regard.

Independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended in view of the Examiner's remarks concerning the allowable subject matter. Consequently, independent claims 1 and 13 and claims depending therefrom are allowable. Furthermore, new claims 20-30 have been added in view of the Examiner's remarks concerning the allowable subject matter. Consequently, new independent claims 20 and 25, and dependent claims 21-24 and 26-30 which depend either directly or indirectly upon claims 20 or 25, are believed to be patentable over the art of record and in condition for allowance.


Conclusion

In view of the amendment and arguments set forth above, independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended and new claims 20 and 25 have been added in view of the Examiner's remarks

concerning the allowable subject matter. The Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims 1-7, 9-13 and 15-30 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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